

AO 91 (Rev. 11/11) Criminal Complaint

United States District Court
Southern District Of Texas
FILED

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

JUL 03 2019

for the

Southern District of Texas

David J. Bradley, Clerk

United States of America

v.

Manuel SEPULVEDA, YOB: 1977 (USC)

Case No.

M-19-1551M

Defendant(s)

CRIMINAL COMPLAINT

I, the complainant in this case, state that the following is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

On or about the date(s) of 07/02/2019 in the county of Starr in the
Southern District of Texas, the defendant(s) violated:

Code Section

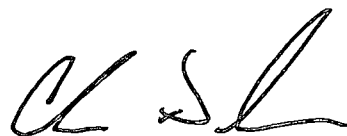
Offense Description

31 USC 5332 (a)(1)

Bulk Cash Smuggling Into or Out of the United States

This criminal complaint is based on these facts:

(See Attachment I).

☐ Continued on the attached sheet.

Complainant's signature

Christopher Donahue, DEA Special Agent

Printed name and title

Sworn to before me and signed in my presence.

Date: 07/03/2019City and state: McAllen, Texas

Judge's signature

J. Scott Hacker, U.S. Magistrate Judge

Printed name and title

ATTACHMENT 1

1. On July 02, 2019, during the morning hours, U.S. Border Patrol Agents (BPA) and Texas DPS Troopers established surveillance in the area of Midway Road, Rio Grande City, Texas.
2. At approximately 9:30 a.m., agents observed a white Ford F-250 travel to and then stop in an area approximately 15 yards from Rio Grande River in Rio Grande City, Texas. The Rio Grande River serves as the International Border between the United States and Mexico. Soon thereafter the Border Patrol Agent observed a Hispanic male walk from a brushy area along the bank of the Rio Grande River and approach the parked Ford F-250. Moments later, the Border Patrol Agent observed the Hispanic male walking away from the Ford F-250 carrying a large bundle, consistent with narcotics or bulk drug proceeds, over his head. The Border Patrol Agent then observed the Hispanic male subject walking towards Rio Grande River which was approximately 15 yards away. The Border Patrol Agent then approached the Hispanic male carrying the bundle and identified himself as law enforcement. The Hispanic male subject then dropped the bundle in the area of the Ford F-250 and ran south towards the Rio Grande River, eventually absconding into Mexico. At the same time, the Border Patrol Agent observed the Ford F-250 depart the area and travel north along a farm road. Agents subsequently located four (4) large bundles containing U.S. currency in the immediate area of where the Ford F-250 was parked and where the Hispanic male subject dropped the bundle. Agents subsequently followed the tire tracks of the Ford F-250 and after a few minutes, located the same white Ford F-250, parked in nearby farm field. Agents subsequently observed the driver of the Ford F-250 standing outside of Ford F-250. The driver of Ford F-250 was identified as Manuel SEPULVEDA (hereafter, SEPULVEDA). Upon being detained by agents and prior to being Mirandized by agents, SEPULVEDA stated, "They caught me red-handed. It was me. I'm not going to run."
3. On this same date, agents processed the four (4) bundles and determined that the bundles contained numerous smaller bundles of U.S. currency.
4. On July 03, 2019, the U.S. currency was removed from the bundles and counted. The total amount of U.S. currency in the four bundles was \$1,487,005.00.